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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO						
09/761,640	01/18/2001	Ming-Hui Wei	CL000964-CIP	6098						
25748 7	12/10/2004		EXAM	INER						
0.0-1-1-1	NOMICS CORP.		NGUYEN,	, QUANG						
ATTN: WAYN 45 WEST GUI		E PRES, INTEL PROPERTY	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER						
C2-4#20			1636							
ROCKVILLE,	MD 20850	DATE MAILED: 12/10/2004	DATE MAILED: 12/10/2004							

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)												
	09/761,640	WEI ET AL.												
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM														
 THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). 														
Status														
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>02 September 2004</u> .														
2a)⊠ This action is FINAL . 2b)□ This	This action is FINAL . 2b) This action is non-final.													
3) Since this application is in condition for allowar	This action is FINAL . 2b) This action is non-final. Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is													
closed in accordance with the practice under E	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.													
Disposition of Claims	•													
4) Claim(s) 4,8,9 and 24-30 is/are pending in the application.														
4) ☐ Claim(s) 4,8,9 and 24-30 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) ☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed.														
Claim(s) is/are allowed.														
	☐ Claim(s) is/are allowed. ☐ Claim(s) <u>4,8,9 and 24, 27-30</u> is/are rejected.													
6)⊠ Claim(s) 4,8,9 and 24, 27-30 is/are rejected. 7)⊠ Claim(s) 25 and 26 is/are objected to. 8)□ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.														
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.														
Application Papers														
9)⊠ The specification is objected to by the Examine	r.													
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)☐ acce	epted or b) \square objected to by the E	Examiner.												
Applicant may not request that any objection to the	drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See	e 37 CFR 1.85(a).												
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correcti		, ,												
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex	aminer. Note the attached Office	Action or form PTO-152.												
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119														
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.														
2. Certified copies of the priority documents		on No.												
<u> </u>														
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of	of the certified copies not receive	d.												
Attachment(s)		,												
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview Summary	(PTO-413)												
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	Paper No(s)/Mail Da	te atent Application (PTO-152)												

DETAILED ACTION

Applicants' amendment filed on 9/2/04 has been entered.

Amended claims 4, 8-9 and 24-30 are pending in the present application, and they are examined on the merits herein.

Sequence Compliance

This application contains sequence disclosures that are encompassed by the definitions for nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.821(a)(1) and (a)(2). However, this application fails to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821-1.825 for the reason(s) set forth below.

Specifically, Figures 2-3 disclose numerous nucleotide and amino acid sequences that have not been assigned with any SEQ ID NO., either in the Figures or in the section of Description of the Figure Sheets. Some of the disclosed sequences are not even listed in either a Paper Sequence Listing or in a CRF. This sequence noncompliance does not affect the nature of the claims being examined on the merits herein. Failure to comply with the sequence rule will be deemed as non-responsive in the reply to this Office Action.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because in the section of Description of the Figure Sheets, the sequences referred as SEQ ID Nos: 4, 6 in Figure 1; SEQ ID Nos 2, 7 in Figure 2 and SEQ ID NO: 3 in Figure 3 do not match with the sequences with the

Art Unit: 1636

corresponding SEQ ID Nos in the sequence listing. Please also correct similar mistakes throughout the specification.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

Amended claim 4 is objected to because SEQ ID NO:1 is identical to SEQ ID NO:7 (see Sequence listing), and therefore it is an improper Markush claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Amended claim 26 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 25. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k). This is because SEQ ID NO:1 is identical to SEQ ID NO:7 (see Sequence listing).

Response to Amendment

The rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101 and 112, 1st paragraph were withdrawn.

With respect to claimed embodiments specifically reciting SEQ ID NO:4 in newly amended claims, following are new grounds of rejections.

Art Unit: 1636

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 4, 8-9, 24, 27 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Stork et al. (WO 97/00315). This is a new ground of rejection necessitated by Applicants' amendment.

The claims are drawn to an isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a phosphatase protein consisting of a nucleotide sequence that encodes a protein comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, a nucleic acid vector, an isolated host cell comprising the same, its complementary sequence strand, and a process for producing a polypeptide by culturing the same host cell.

Stork et al. disclose a cDNA sequence encoding a mitogen-activated protein kinase phosphatase MKP-2 that contains the same Val-Leu-Val-His-Cys sequence as that of SEQ ID NO:4 of the presently claimed invention (see Figure 22), and therefore the reference meets the limitation of a protein comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4. Stork et al. further teach to clone the cDNA sequence in plasmid vectors to produce over-expressing stable cell lines (see example 2), as well as a method of

Art Unit: 1636

recovering MKP-2 protein in substantially pure form by cells expressing MKP-2 protein (page 8, line 32 continues to line 3 of page 9; page 9, lines 20-27). Please also note that a cDNA molecule contains both sense and its completely complementary antisense strand.

Accordingly, the teachings of Stork et al. meet every limitation of the instant claims. Therefore, Stork et al. anticipate the instant claims.

Claims 4, 8-9, 24 and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Luche et al. (US Patent 6,825,021). This is a new ground of rejection necessitated by Applicants' amendment.

Luche et al. disclose a cDNA sequence encoding a murine dual-specificity phosphatase DSP-15 polypeptide that has the same amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO :4 (see Figures 4-5 and the attached sequence search). Luche et al. further teach a method for producing a DSP-15 polypeptide, comprising the steps of: (a) culturing a host cell transformed or transfected with an expression vector encoding DSP-15 polypeptide under conditions that permit expression of the DSP-15 polypeptide; and (b) isolating DSP-15 polypeptide from the host cell culture (col. 2, lines 9-42). Host cells include prokaryotes, yeasts and mammalian cells (col. 8, lines 4-24). The polynucleotide is cloned into vectors such as plasmids, phagemids, lambda phage derivatives, cosmids, viral vector and others (col. 12, lines 16-44), and an expression vector contains a promoter operatively linked to a polynucleotide of interest, for this instance a polynucleotide encoding a DSP-15 polypeptide (e.g., see example 3).

Art Unit: 1636

Please also note that a cDNA molecule contains both sense and its completely complementary anti-sense strand.

Accordingly, the teachings of Luche et al. meet every limitation of the instant claims. Therefore, Luche et al. anticipate the instant claims.

Examiner notes that the teachings of Luche et al. (US Patent 6,825,021) are identical to the teachings of WO 02/24720 A2 (IDS).

Examiner further notes that WO 01/2004 A2 (with a priority date of 15 September 1999) is also pertinent to the present application. However, the publication is not applied as a prior art because its publication date is 14 September 2000.

In light of the teachings of Luche et al. (US Patent 6,825,021) and WO 01/2004 A2, it is apparent that the encoded amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4 of the presently claimed invention is recognized as a phosphatase protein.

Conclusion

As noted in the previous Office action mailed on 8/27/03, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO:1, a vector or an isolated host cell comprising the same as well as a method for producing a polypeptide by culturing the same isolated host cell.

No claims are allowed.

Art Unit: 1636

Claims 25 and 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quang Nguyen, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (571) 272-0776.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's mentor, David Guzo, Ph.D., may be reached at (571) 272-0767, or SPE, Irem Yucel, Ph.D., at (571) 272-0781.

To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Group Art Unit 1636; Central Fax No. (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to (571) 272-0547.

Art Unit: 1636

Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR) can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the problem. The Patent Electronic Business Center will notify applicants of the resolution of the problem within 5-7 business days. Applicants can also check PAIR to confirm that the problem has been corrected. The USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center is a complete service center supporting all patent business on the Internet. The USPTO's PAIR system provides Internet-based access to patent application status and history information. It also enables applicants to view the scanned images of their own application file folder(s) as well as general patent information available to the public.

Quang Nguyen, Ph.D.

PRIMARY EXAMINER

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ALIGNMENTS

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Murine; dual-specificity phosphatase 15; DSP15; antiallergic; cytostatic; immunosuppressive; MAP; mitogen activated protein kinase; cancer; enzyme; signal transduction; coll proliferation; Duchenne muscular dystrophy; cell cycle abnormality; graft-versus-host disease; autoimmune disease; mctabolic disease; allergy; screening; gene; ss. Murine dual-specificity phosphatase 15 (DSP-15) cDNA. AAD36063 standard; cDNA; 2618 09-AUG-2002 (first entry) AAD36063;

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The invention relates to a new isolated dual-specificity phosphatase 15 (DSP-15) polypeptide which retains the ability to dephosphorylate an activated MAP (mitogen activated protein) kinase. DSPs are phosphatases that dephosphorylate both phosphotyrosine and phosphothreonina/Serine residues. DSP-15 polypeptides may be used to identify agents that modulate DSP-15 activity, where such agents may inhibit or enhance signal transduction via a MAP-kinase cascade, leading to cell proliferation. DSP polypeptides may be used to modulate DSP-15 activity in a patient, and to ameliotrate disporders such as Duchonne muscular dystrophy, cancer, graftversus-host disease, autoimmune diseases, allergies, metabolic diseases, autoimmune diseases, allergies, metabolic diseases, abnormal cell growth, abnormal cell proliferation and cell cycle abnormalities. DSP-15 alternate form polypeptides are useful in screening assays for modulators of enzyme activity and/or substrate binding. The present sequence is murine DSP-15 cDNA.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 New dual-specificity phosphatase 15 polypeptide and polynucleotides, useful for treating e.g. Duchenne muscular dystrophy, cancer, graft-versus-host disease, autoimmune diseases, allergies, metabolic diseases
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/*tag a //product = "Murine DSP-15 protein"
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       Claim 56; Fig 4; 91pp; English.
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1355 CGCCACGTGCAGGAGCTCCGGCCCATCGCCCCCCAACCCTGGCTTCCTGCGCCAGCTG 1414
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GenCore version 5.1.4_p5_4578 Copyright (c) 1993 - 2003 Compugen Ltd.
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nucleic search, using frame_plus_p2n model OM protein - April 11, 2003, 00:12:38 ; Search time 887 Seconds (without alignments) 1195.819 Million cell updates/sec Run on:

US-09-761-640-4 2436 1 MALVIVSRSPPGSGASTPVG......PNPGFLROLQIYQGILTART 471 Title: Perfect :

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Database :

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ALIGNMENTS

AAD36063 standard; cDNA; 2618 RESULT 1

AAD36063;

09-AUG-2002 (first entry)

Murine; dual-specificity phosphatase 15; DSP15; antiallergic; cytostatic; immunosuppressive; MAP; mitogen activated protein kinase; cancer; enzyme; signal transduction; call proliferation; buchenne muscular dystrophy; cell cycle abnormality; graft-versus host disease; autoimmune disease; mctabolic disease; allergy; screening; gene; ss. Murine dual-specificity phosphatase 15 (DSP-15) cDNA.

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                                                  /*tag= a /product= "Murine DSP-15 protein"
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/*tag= a
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P-PSDB; ABP51653.
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